DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY NOTICE OF FINAL PUBLIC MEETING AND PUBLIC COMMENT

PURPOSE OF NOTICE: The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) seeks public comment on the development of a cleanup study, also known as a Total Maximum Daily Load report (TMDL), for segments of Bailey Creek, Nuttree Branch, Oldtown Creek, Proctors Creek, Rohoic Creek, and Swift Creek in Chesterfield, Dinwiddie, and Prince George Counties, and the Cities of Petersburg and Hopewell. These streams are listed as impaired since monitoring data does not meet Virginia's water quality standards for aquatic life use due to benthic impairments. Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act and §62.1-44.19:7.C of the State Water Control Law require DEQ to develop cleanup studies to address pollutants responsible for causing waters to be on Virginia's 303(d) list of impaired waters. A component of a cleanup study is the Waste Load Allocation (WLA); therefore, this notice is provided pursuant to §2.2-4006.A.14 of the Administrative Process Act for adoption of the WLA into the Water Quality Management Planning Regulation, 9VAC25-720, after completion of the study. The adoption of the WLA may require new or additional requirements for entities holding a Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (VPDES) permit in these watersheds.

A study has been completed for segments of Bailey Creek, Nuttree Branch, Oldtown Creek, Proctors Creek, Rohoic Creek, and Swift Creek to identify pollutant sources and recommend reductions needed from the sources to meet water quality standards. DEQ will present the results of the study at the public meeting and provide an overview of the draft report. Citizens are invited to provide comment on the study.

CLEANUP STUDY LOCATION: The cleanup study addresses the following impaired stream segments: Bailey Creek is located in the City of Hopewell and Prince George County and the impaired area is 6.47 miles in length beginning at its headwaters and extending to the tidal limit. Nuttree Branch is located within Chesterfield County and the impairment length is 5.58 miles beginning at its headwaters and extending to the confluence with Swift Creek. Oldtown Creek is located within Chesterfield County and the City of Colonial Heights, is 10.4 miles and begins at its headwaters and extends to the fall line. Proctors Creek is within Chesterfield County and is 8.26 miles starting at its headwaters and extending to its tidal limit. Rohoic Creek is located in Dinwiddie County and the City of Petersburg; the impairment begins at its headwaters and extends to the mouth at the Appomattox River and includes the tributaries for a total length of 13.45 miles. Swift Creek is located within Chesterfield County; the impairments extend from Reedy Creek to the limit of Swift Creek Lake (2.88 miles), and from Swift Creek Lake dam downstream to the confluence with Licking Creek (7.25 miles).

TMDL TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE meetings to assist in development of this cleanup study were convened on February 3, 2021; April 14, 2021; and May 9, 2022.

PUBLIC MEETING: The final public meeting on the development of the cleanup study will be held at the Clover Hill Library large meeting room located at 6701 Deer Run Drive, Midlothian, Virginia 23112, on February 15, 2023, at 5:00 p.m. In the event of inclement weather, the meeting will be held on February 22, 2023 at the same time and location stated above.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: February 15, 2023 to March 17, 2023.

HOW TO COMMENT: DEQ accepts comments orally at the public meeting, by e-mail, fax or postal mail. All comments must be received by DEQ during the comment period. Submittals must include the name, organization they represent (if any), mailing addresses and telephone numbers of the commenter/requester.

CONTACT FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS, DOCUMENT REQUESTS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Kelley West; Piedmont Regional Office, 4949-A Cox Road, Glen Allen, Virginia 23060; Phone: (804) 432-7946; E-mail: Kelley.West@deq.virginia.gov; Fax: (804) 698-4178. The

public may review the cleanup study at the following website address: https://www.deq.virginia.gov/water/water-quality/tmdl-development/tmdls-under-development.